

We Claim:

1 1. An optical fiber formed by a method which comprises:
2 (a) providing a preform having a glass core, a substantially homogeneous
3 coating of a light interactive material over said glass core and a glass cladding over
4 said coating of said light interactive material, with said glasses having an
5 overlapping flow range and said coating material having a flow point which lies
6 below the flow range of said glasses with said flow range being in the range of about
7 600-1500°C; and
8 (b) heating said preform to an elevated temperature and drawing a fiber from
9 said preform at the flow temperature of said glasses, whereby a fiber is formed
10 having a substantially continuous film of light interactive material formed between
11 said core and cladding throughout the entire length of the fiber, whereby said
12 coating material strongly interacts with light in the core to effect either high
13 dispersion, absorption saturation, amplification, Faraday rotation or other similar
14 effects of the said light.

1 2. An optical fiber formed by a method which comprises:
2 (a) providing a preform having a glass core, a substantially homogeneous
3 coating of a light interactive material over said glass core and a glass cladding over
4 said coating of said light interactive material, where said light interactive material is
5 an inorganic material selected from the group consisting of a metal, metal alloy,
6 ferrite, ceramic, magnetic material and a semiconductor, with said glasses having an
7 overlapping flow range and said coating material having a flow point which lies
8 below the flow range of said glasses with said flow range being in the range of about
9 600-1500°C; and
10 (b) heating said preform to an elevated temperature and drawing a fiber from
11 said preform at the flow temperature of said glasses, whereby a fiber is formed
12 having a substantially continuous film of light interactive material formed between
13 said core and cladding throughout the entire length of the fiber, whereby said
14 coating material strongly interacts with light in the core to effect either high

15 dispersion, absorption saturation, amplification, Faraday rotation or other similar
16 effects of the said light.